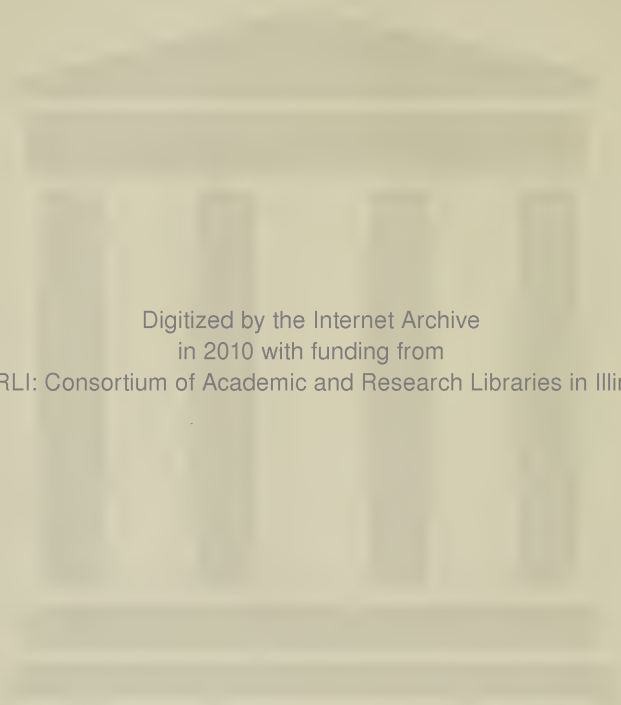


John Vaughan Clarke





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Clarke Memorial



In Memoriam

John Vaughan Clarke

**Born in Chicago, October fifteenth,
eighteen sixty-two**

**Died in Chicago, May thirty-first,
nineteen eleven**

**Chicago
Privately Printed
MCMXII**

John Vaughan Clarke

was bred in the environment of his own life's work, surrounded by those burdened with the responsibility of a great banking institution. He was born October 15, 1862. His honored father, bearing the same name, was the founder of The Hibernian Banking Association, and instilled in his son all the high qualities and businesslike characteristics which he himself possessed.

After he had graduated from the Chicago public schools, John Vaughan Clarke attended St. Ignatius College and then Barnes Academy. In his eighteenth year our late associate entered the bank as a messenger, and from then on he worked in every branch and qualified in each department, until upon the death of his father, in 1892 he was elected his successor as President. Each promotion, however, was earned by honest endeavor and application to his duties. favoritism did not procure his rapid advance in the Bank, but his sterling ability and faithfulness carried him forward to the high position which he finally achieved. All who watched the exceptionally intelligent diligence with which the young man fairly earned each advancement accord him this praise.

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His unusual efficiency was not, however, measured by his ability as a banker only, but was augmented by many accomplishments, which he had quietly acquired. In his work in the Bank he soon saw the need of some legal knowledge to make more thorough his training as a banker. Although he never took a bar examination, by utilizing the spare time after hard work in the Bank, he obtained a surprisingly good knowledge of banking law, equal to many who specialized in that work only. His acquirements in that direction, and the high ambition which it reflected, won him not only universal respect, but also the admiration of attorneys with whom he came in contact, and who were bound to realize and were astonished at the high degree of his legal attainments.

John Vaughan Clarke's studies and his bank duties did not, however, shut him off from pleasures and recreations, or deprive him of companionship with his fellows, and from mingling in social affairs. With his accomplishments and knowledge he combined great modesty, the best proof of which was the numerous friends he drew about him, and who were proud to have a comrade so true and loyal. Once his confidence was gained he never wavered as a friend. Those who were fortunate enough to have acquired his friendship, loved him for his big-heartedness and

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kindness, as did also all who knew him or knew of him. There was a primitive honesty, a gentle openness in his nature which silently conveyed an impression of deep-rooted goodness.

He was the last to speak of his acts of personal benevolences, but they were many and constant. His name and aid were sought by and were granted to many public and private institutions of philanthropic work, without ostentation or appearance of pose. He did the thing itself, disdaining to be pictured in the doing of it. In fact, his charm of true modesty shone equally in his public, professional and private life.

“Good deeds the chosen work he wrought,
Sweet thoughts most highly prized,
Nor power nor fame by him was sought,
Nor humble things despised.”

Reared with a healthy body as well as mind, John Vaughan Clarke as a boy enjoyed all American sports and later relaxed his mind from the cares of business and relieved himself from the whirl of the city life by occasional trips to the country. There he found natural relief and pleasure in the fresh country air and healthy recreation as a fisherman in some quiet stream. He soon became an ardent angler and roaming amidst the quiet charm of the woods he acquired great skill as a

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hunter and marksman. Returning to the city with his mind and body refreshed and inspired by the noble impressions from nature, his energy was stimulated to accomplish higher aims and his mind was emboldened to face every problem.

As a member of several clubs, for good fellowship was natural to him, his refined sociability placed him in the high esteem of his fellow club members. But John Vaughan Clarke not only valued the club as a utility, but enjoyed it to the full on occasion.

As a citizen he was in the true sense broad minded and public spirited. He took a deeper and more active interest in public questions and movements than his quiet manner conveyed to those who did not know him well. His sterling qualities stood every test, or he would not so cordially have been honored and weighted with offices involving real duties and bringing no emoluments. Again, the virtue of honest modesty veiled much zealous activity. He thought out each problem as it arose, decided on his course of action, and pursued it with steadfast eye regardless of the petty manoeuvres that too often degrade the science of politics to a mere game of policy.

He was as true an American as he was devoted to his religion. Both were to him mental stimulants

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which enabled him to strive for great achievements and noble deeds. Religion was a shield for him against vice, falsehood and flattery, and patriotism gave him the strength to fight for all his ideals and to reach the zenith of his ambition.

John Vaughan Clarke married Bertha English at Columbus, Ohio in 1889. Whoever was fortunate enough to have a glance at him, reveling in the sweeter delights of the home fireside, got a true picture of the real man. There was the devoted husband enjoying the blessings of a happy home and the love of the one dearest to his heart. There lay the real strength, the real root of all the good qualities and great achievements which forced us to admire his public life. We who knew him in his life, who loved him as our dear friend, who respected him as our honored acquaintance, will cherish his memory for all time. His life stands for all eternity, a monument which neither time nor storm can destroy.

**Tribute to the memory
of
John Vaughan Clarke**

In Memoriam

Resolution passed by the Chicago Clearing House Association
at a special meeting held on May 31, 1911.

Tribute to the memory of

John Vaughan Clarke

The members of the Chicago Clearing House Association, in special meeting assembled, desire to express their deep regret at the sudden death of their esteemed associate, John Vaughan Clarke, and to record their high appreciation of his worthy life and character.

John Vaughan Clarke was born in Chicago, October 15, 1862, and his entire life has been spent in this city.

At the age of 18 he entered the Hibernian Banking Association, of which his father was founder and President, and step by step he won his way until on the death of his father in 1892, he was fully prepared to succeed him. Under his administration the bank has steadily increased in the size of its business and in its importance to the financial interests of Chicago.

John Vaughan Clarke

Mr. Clarke's business ability, foresight and judgment were remarkable, while his business standard was that of integrity and square dealing, his character was marked by self-reliance, honesty, firmness and courtesy, which won him success in his profession, and the admiration and respect of his associates.

With these qualities of character, Mr. Clarke combined a kind heart, and a genial nature which prompted him to kindly acts of charity and generosity.

He was the honored Vice-President of this Association during the years of 1899 and 1900, and its President during the year 1901.

Now that he has been so suddenly called from us we desire to record our estimate of him as an honorable banker, a good citizen and a loyal friend whose loss we deeply deplore.

In Memoriam

The Officers and Directors of The Hibernian Banking Association present this testimonial of their appreciation of the life and character of the late president of the bank, John Vaughan Clarke.

Charles C. Hdsit
George Allen
James H. Barnard
Henry B. Clarke
Louis B. Clarke
Frederic S. Hebard
Julius Kessler
Adolph Kurz

David R. Lewis
Robert H. McElwee
Everett R. Mcfadden
John W. Mac Geagh
John P. Murphy
Kinney Smith
William H. Tilden
Hempstead Washburne

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